



Our Lady of Victory
490 Charles Street
Gatineau, Québec
J8L 2K5

**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF LENT**

MARCH 17 – 18, 2018

St. Malachy
3889 Route 315
Mayo, Québec
J8L 3Z8

Sunday 9:00 AM

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 7:00 PM

Pastor Father Albanus Ogowuihe

Rectory 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5

Secretary Monique Simpson

Email olv@videotron.ca

Office Hours **Monday** - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Wednesday - 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Thursday - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Telephone (819) 986-3763

Website www.stmalachyolv.com



180, boul. Mont-Bleu
Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5

www.diocesegatineau.org

MASSES

Tuesday	Mar. 20 th	OLV @ 7:00 pm	Penitential Service
Thursday	Mar. 22 nd	OLV @ 10:00 am	James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate St. Theresa, St. Faustina, St. Antoine & The Lord's Supper for favor received by Rachelle Carrolle
Saturday	Mar. 24 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Royal Baulne by Rachel & Baulne
Sunday	Mar. 25 th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Alma Miller by Family & Friends Pierre Thomas by Nicole Charbonneau Paul Fortier by Family & Friends Evelyn Robitaille by Family & Friends

EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday	Mar. 28 th	St. Joseph @ 7:00 pm	Chrim Mass
Holy Thursday	Mar. 29 th	OLV @ 10:00 am	NO MASS
Holy Thursday	Mar. 29 th	OLV @ 7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	Mar. 30 th	St. Aloysius @ 2:30 pm	Stations of the Cross and Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Good Friday	Mar. 30 th	OLV @ 3:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday	Mar. 31 st	OLV @ 8:00 pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	Apr. 1 st	OLV @ 9:00 am	Celebration of the Eucharist
Easter Sunday	Apr. 1 st	St. Malachy @ 11:00 am	Celebration of the Eucharist

Bishop's Monthly Prayer Intentions for March

Actions I may take: I inquire about my town's social development policy. I look for sections on the improvement of the status of women. I share my opinion with them.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Lent: Dying out of Love to Live Forever

Today's liturgy focuses on the approaching death of Jesus in which He offered His life for others. We are reminded that we too must possess heaven by dying to self and spending our lives in self-giving, sacrificial service. In the **first reading**, the Prophet Jeremiah announces that God would replace our Covenant of Judgement with a New Covenant of Forgiveness of sins. The people of God failed to keep, the old covenant made at the foot of Mount Sinai, contrary to their promise of fidelity to God. Instead, history showed a succession of betrayals; and the consequence was ruin at the hand of their enemies. God will make a new Covenant to cope with their infidelity, a Covenant that will be different from the first. The old Covenant was founded on beautiful laws; the commandments of God were written on stones and only served as road signs and never penetrated the people. They gave the people direction but did not give them the power to move in the required direction. The people were too weak to keep the beautiful laws.

Signs and strong words are of no use when there is no strength. In the New Covenant, the commandments would be engraved in the most intimate part of humans, in their hearts.

The laws would no longer be an external imposition but a "felt interior need to behave well, a desire, and resolve to speed along God's way, without need for anybody to teach anyone else" (Armellini, F vol. B, p.93). The Spirit of God in the person's heart would be the guiding force, to give the strength to overcome all temptations, even the seemingly insurmountable ones.

This prophecy of the New Covenant began to be realized at Easter, when Jesus, by dying and entering into the glory of the Father, gave us His Spirit, His strength. When the Spirit of God which has been planted in us like a small seed grows to maturity, then the kingdom of God will be fully with us. The Letter to the Hebrews, our **second reading**, speaks about the dual nature of Christ: He is both God and man. The author tells us that it is by His suffering and death, in obedience to His Father's will, that Jesus established this new and better Covenant as prophesied by Jeremiah (Jer. 31:31-34). Today's passage stresses the reaction of Jesus to suffering and death. As man, Jesus felt what every person feels in these circumstances. He went through all the difficulties and temptations we all experience. The only difference is that He was never overcome by evil and was always faithful to the Father unlike us. The Gospel echoes the same message: Jesus uses the metaphors of the "sown wheat grain" and the "spent life" to teach the same message. In nature, nothing is produced without passing first through death. The grain of wheat, before turning into a wheat stalk, must first disappear under soil. It is by His suffering and death that Jesus is bringing life and liberation to the sinful world, just as the grain of wheat sown in the field ceases to remain itself alone by germinating and then growing into a plant which produces many new grains.

The **Gospel** has a lot of implication for us all: it is by self-sacrificial lives of holy men and women that life and salvation come to humankind. When we "die" to our selfishness, we "rise" to new life in Jesus Christ. To be "buried in the earth" means avoiding sin, accepting suffering and living for others. Again, all those who want to save their lives, to bring about the birth of a new world, must first have the courage to die. That is, they must give themselves up in love. Jesus says: *"The person who loves their life loses it, and the person who hates their life in this life will keep it for eternal life"*. Like Christ, we reach the utmost fulfillment of our lives when we give ourselves up to death for love of our brothers and sisters. Only life spent for others will be glorified here and hereafter. It is better to burn out than to rust out (cf Mark 8:35; Mt 16:25; 10:39; Lk 9:24). Lent is a time to take a decision to "die". **Happy Sunday!**



Solidarity Sunday

We wish to thank you for your generosity on this **Development and Peace** Solidarity Sunday. Your donation will be used to help our sisters and brothers all over the world — from Lebanon to Cambodia, to Nigeria and beyond! The theme of our Share Lent campaign **Together for Peace**, invites us to build peace through dialogue and reconciliation and to consider mercy as a source of hope for the future. This is what Pope Francis underlined on the occasion of the Jubilee of Mercy: “Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope.” Thank you for helping us create a future filled with hope!

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

Chrism Mass: Archbishop Paul-André Durocher is pleased to invite **all parishioners** to gather at this mass during which the Oils for the Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick will be blessed and the Holy Chrism consecrated. Date: **Holy Wednesday, March 28 at 7:00 pm.** at Saint-Joseph Cathedral 245 Saint-Joseph Boulevard, Gatineau. Free parking available behind the church and on the streets nearby.

Good Friday Collection: Good Friday, March 30, there will be a Pontifical collection for the Holy Land in support of the Christian communities, the work of the Holy Land, the upkeep of the Holy Sites and the formation of future priests. Let us give generously and show solidarity to respond to the needs of the Church in the land of Jesus. Collection envelopes for OLV and St. Malachy can be left with the Easter collections. **Thank you.**

Bread Bags: The St. Michel's school is looking for donations of bread plastic bags for their students. They appreciate the continued donations of egg cartons. A box will be available at the entrance of OLV to accept your donations. (Thanks Monique).

Card Games & Light Lunch: Reserve your table before APRIL 3 by contacting: Nancy Lanthier at nancylanthier@magma.ca or 819-986-8343. Date: April 10 with lunch at 12:30 pm and games between 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Cost: \$60.00 for a table of FOUR. DOOR PRIZES !!!!!

Community News

St. Andrew's Easter Pancake Breakfast: **April 1 (Easter Sunday) from 8 – 10 am.** \$10.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. Tickets available from Greg.